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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/766,609	01/23/2001	Takehiro Yoshida	35.G2716	1886

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EXAMINER

JONES, DAVID

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 10/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/766,609

Applicant(s)

YOSHIDA, TAKEHIRO

Examiner

David L Jones

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 January 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/11/2001.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 7/11/2001 was filed after the filing date of the application on 1/23/01 and before a first action on the merits. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: Fig. 1, #2B, #2C, and 18A; Figs. 9A-E. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted

by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: An Image Forming Apparatus Utilizing T.33 Protocol to Include Both Extensions and Secondary Phone Numbers.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Malik (US 5,991,290).

Regarding claim 1, Malik teaches an image forming apparatus transmitting a subaddress signal, comprising:

extension number input means (fig. 3) for inputting a plurality of extension numbers as information of the subaddress signal; Malik teaches in column 7, lines 26-53, that the user has the ability to input both an extension and a secondary telephone numbers.

secondary telephone number input means for inputting a plurality of secondary telephone numbers;

direct input means for directly inputting particular information; Malik teaches that user inputs a "*" from the keypad and the system automatically changes the symbol to the "+" of which is utilized under T.33 protocol; and

display means (fig. 3, #220) for displaying an acknowledge message when the particular information is input from the direct input means. Malik teaches in column 6, lines 15-27, that the display 220 echoes the data input by the user. In addition, the display includes text, generated by the source terminal 10, which "prompts" the user to enter specific information at a specific time.

Further, in column 6, lines 28-54, and shown in figure 4, after the user starts the process, the system prompts the user for a subaddress either a 4-digit number or an alphanumeric sequence of varying length. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that by utilizing both a 4-digit number or an alphanumeric sequence the system is utilizing both an extension input and a secondary phone number ability and automatically is able to tell the difference, and includes prompts for the user to verify what is being input is correct.

Regarding claim 2, Malik teaches an image forming apparatus transmitting a subaddress signal wherein the particular information input by the direct input means is one of the symbols "+" or "++"; Malik includes in column 7, lines 38-53, knows to convert the "*" to the "+" symbol.

Regarding claim 3, Malik teaches (column 6, lines 16-27) an image forming apparatus

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transmitting a subaddress signal, wherein the displayed message is changed in response to the information of the directly input subaddress.

Regarding claim 6, Malik teaches (column 4, lines 57-66) an image forming apparatus transmitting a subaddress signal, wherein the image communication apparatus is a facsimile apparatus (Ricoh Corp. facsimile model FAX 2700).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 4 and 5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hochman et al. (US 5,206,743) discloses a facsimile routing methodology based upon ITU-T.33 and discloses specific data information.

Barak (US 6,046,824) discloses a facsimile transmission storage and retrieval system.

Alam et al. (US 6,104,500) discloses a processor based fax routing method utilizing optical character recognition.

Oseto (US 6,097,797) discloses a fax routing method utilizing a subaddress for routing by email.


ITU-T.33 "Facsimile routing Utilizing the Subaddress", 07/96.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David L Jones whose telephone number is (703) 305-4675. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (7:00am - 3:30pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David L. Jones



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